

THE TIMES-DISPATCH

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SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1937.

Prosperity is a gift of God when He comforts; adversity is a gift of God when He warns.—St. Augustine.

A Bloody Conspiracy.

The whole country was startled yesterday by the announcement from the White House that a conspiracy, abundantly financed, had been formed, or was in process of formation, to destroy Roosevelt in the United States.

It would be bad enough for an individual to undertake such an outrage, but when two or more citizens, and especially two or more plutocrats, bind themselves together in a plot to prevent Mr. Roosevelt from naming his successor and continuing his policies, they defy not only the President and his admirers, but the common law.

A conspiracy in law is an agreement between two or more persons to do certain wrongful acts, which may not, as we have intimated, be punishable when committed by a single person not acting in concert with others. If Mr. Harriman, as an individual citizen, should plot against Mr. Roosevelt, as an individual politician, he would be guilty of a wrongful act, not to say a despicable act; but he would be within his individual rights. But when he combines with other men and a corruption fund of \$5,000,000 in such a plot, he and they are guilty of conspiracy, and conspiracy to do a wrongful act is a crime. Moreover, it is a rule of English law that such an agreement as we have mentioned is in itself criminal, although the conspiracy be not completed; so that the secret of the conspiracy may even now be arrested and presented to the grand jury for aiding and abetting the conspiracy.

There are several kinds of criminal conspiracies, to-wit: combinations against government, combinations to defeat or prevent justice, combinations to defraud, combinations to injure otherwise than by fraud, and so on. The alleged conspiracy against Roosevelt is all of these. It is a conspiracy against government, a conspiracy to defeat or prevent justice, and a conspiracy to defraud, and all the rest. It is awful, and a guileless citizen finds it hard to believe that there are other citizens, even in the Republican party, who are bad and bold enough to think of such a conspiracy. But the President alleges it, and in spite of Senator Penrose's stiff denial, the President's statements must not be disputed.

The arch conspirator in history who holds the record is Catiline. But even he was not so bad as the conspirators against Roosevelt. Catiline conspired against Rome, but the object of his conspiracy was the cancellation of debts and the proscription of the wealthy; whereas, the object of the conspirators against Roosevelt is to increase the burdens of the people, to make the rich richer and to exalt the wealthy above all classes.

It is a serious situation that faces the President. But the point of the story is that it is a Republican situation. There is a row in camp, and a Republican row is a Democratic opportunity. Get together, Democrats; get together.

Mr. Thomas's Protest.

Mr. A. F. Thomas, of Lynchburg, protests that there are too many railroad men on the State Democratic Executive Committee. "This committee," says Mr. Thomas, "consists of ten members, chief of whom is Thomas F. Ryan, who, with four railroad attorneys, two of whom are chief counsel for two of the trunk lines traversing the State, form half of the committee. It is patent that they, with the aid of the chairman, can dominate the organization and wield a subtle, though powerful, influence upon party policies."

"For my part, I am unalterably opposed to organized control of the Democratic party by the railroads or any other special interest."

So is The Times-Dispatch. We go further and say that we are opposed to the selection of any man to serve on the Democratic committee, in the State Legislature or in Congress as a railroad representative. The man who is elected by the people to serve in

any such capacity is under moral and legal obligation to represent the people and the people's interests, and if he represent any other interest to the injury of the people he is a civic traitor and a fit subject for impeachment. But, notwithstanding these sentiments, which have been expressed time and again by The Times-Dispatch, we are not in the class of those who would treat every railroad official, attorney or stockholder as an outlaw. There are many railroad men so-called who are as honest, as honorable and as patriotic; who are as much devoted to the cause of Democracy and the welfare of Virginia, as the best citizens in other occupations, and they are not to be excluded from participation in the party's affairs or debarred from holding political office merely because of their vocation.

Let us judge every man by his own merit and character, and not by his occupation. If it can be shown that any member or members of the State Executive Committee are there for the purpose of promoting the interests of railroads to the detriment of the public interest, they should be retired at once. But at the "railroad members" are honorable men, good and true citizens and Democrats. It would be unjust and undemocratic to turn them out simply because of their business connections. We do not think that there is any just ground for Mr. Thomas's suspicions or fears.

The Lesson from Chicago.

Chicago has had fifty mayoralty contests, with the following record since 1879:

35—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1879
34—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1881
33—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1883
32—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1885
31—John A. Roche, Rep., 1887
30—John A. Roche, Rep., 1889
29—John A. Roche, Rep., 1891
28—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1893
27—John A. Roche, Rep., 1895
26—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1897
25—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1899
24—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1901
23—Carter H. Harrison, Sr., Dem., 1903
22—Edward F. Dunne, Dem., 1905
21—Frederick A. Busse, Rep., 1907

It will be seen from this that from 1879 to 1907 only three Republicans were elected, and each of them for a single term only. Carter H. Harrison, Jr., was elected in 1907, and was succeeded in 1909 by Edward F. Dunne, another Democrat. But in 1917 Mayor Dunne was defeated by a Republican.

Why? A. J. Sabath, one of Mayor Dunne's lieutenants, answers. One reason which he assigns is that the Republicans used money freely. "Another reason," says he, "was the knifing of the ticket by the Democrats. A number of Democrats were not sincere for municipal ownership. Others were openly opposed to it."

That is a frank and important statement which Democratic leaders may consider to the profit of the party. Chicago is a hotbed of socialism, and we would naturally suppose that municipal ownership of street railways would be a popular issue in that community. But if Mayor Dunne, a Democrat already in office, could not win on a platform providing for the municipal ownership of the street railway lines, it is fair to presume that no Democrat could be elected President of the United States on a platform providing for government ownership of railroads.

Democracy and socialism are as far removed as the east from the west. Democracy is always strongest in its integrity and when fighting for its own principles.

Tax-Dodging.

In reply to an article in Collier's Weekly on tax-dodging, a correspondent, writing from Louisiana, says: "Should a man list securities in this in many cases exceed the income. Unwillingly absorb the entire income, and you are out of business. It is immoral to be guilty of tax-dodging? It is not only not immoral, but it is a disgrace, that people should be forced by law to become perjurers, if need be, and all liars."

This does not justify tax-dodging, but it encourages it. Every unjust tax is an invitation to the taxpayer to dodge. Several years ago a citizen of Virginia in paying his land tax called the treasurer's attention to a double tax which the State was making him pay. The treasurer frankly admitted the injustice, and the taxpayer then put this question to him: "You, a State officer, confess that the State has imposed a double tax on my visible property. Now suppose I have securities hidden away from the eye of the assessor, don't you think I would be justified in failing to list them?"

"I think you would," was the treasurer's reply. The treasurer was in error, for two wrongs never make a right. But the lesson is plain. If the State expects her citizens to deal fairly and honestly with her, she must deal fairly and honestly with them. The State must always set the example.

Newspaper Week.

The National Editorial Association and the Virginia Press Association will meet at the Jamestown Exposition during the week beginning June 10th. President Roosevelt will address the editors, and the Exposition Company has arranged the following program:

Monday, June 10.—Following reception and address by President Roosevelt, review of warships assembled in Hampton Roads.
Tuesday, June 11.—Afternoon and evening warship and exhibits.
Wednesday, June 12.—Observation trip over Norfolk and Southern Railroad to Virginia Beach, the famous Atlantic seaboard summer resort; bath in surf; after which party will be taken to Cape Henry, where first English settlers landed in America; after viewing famous sights and old light-house, "Wachapreague station, etc., N. E. A. will be entertained at clam bake.

and return to Exposition Grounds. Thursday, June 13.—Trip to Jamestown Island, where the first English settlement in America was consummated; viewing old Jamestown ruins and historic homes on James River to Hampton Roads; return by moonlight. Friday, June 14.—Trip to view the United States Navy Yard at Portsmouth; famous ship-building plant at Newport News, passing the scene of the battle between the Merrimack and Monitor; Hampton Institute; Old Point Comfort and Fortress Monroe, the most formidable fortification in the United States; return to the Exposition Grounds.

President Junken, of the National Editorial Association, in a private letter to The Times-Dispatch, suggests that the week in which the editors will meet be designated "Newspaper Week." The suggestion seems to us to be most appropriate, and we pass it on to the Jamestown Exposition Company.

Walter Wellman says that Lieutenant Perry doesn't know a single thing about ballooning, and, inferentially, about getting to the Pole. Any little reflections on a man who is actually that the Lieutenant may care to inquire in at this time will have the telegraph editor's most careful attention.

Swettenham says that his famous letter to Admiral Davis was only a joke. None the less, the ex-Governor, having failed to send along the diagram, has only himself to blame for the misunderstanding.

Of the Roosevelt-Harriman hair-pulling Senator Ben. Tillman observes: "It simply disgusts me." It is gratifying to note that the Senator knows, at last, how he feels.

It would be just Pittsburgh's luck to have those twenty-eight good men turn out, upon investigation, to be Richmonders who were merely wintering there.

A lot more highly unnecessary talk might have been injected into the situation were it not for the merciful fact that Chancellor Day has the mumps.

Ten thousand tailors are on strike in Germany. However, any gentleman in urgent need of a suit can doubtless negotiate one from Harry Lehr.

In the future when great men have to write letters of the burn-it kind, it may occur to them just to write them out in their own little longhand.

Still Mr. Harriman never got so intimate with the President that his wife was addressed as "Dear Maria," or anything of that sort.

High prices for ice will doubtless prevail in Ohio this season, two dealers out there having just been stung for heavy fines.

Now it looks as if one Penrose, were actually doing his utmost to elect Mr. Roosevelt to the Ananias Society.

On the political horizon a certain haziness begins to close in around the ancient Republican supremacy.

What adjective would properly describe a situation which "disgusts" Senator Brentlman?

The match trust, having earned \$500,000 last year, should feel proud of their Lucifers.

Up to closing time last evening, Major Goethals was still the Main Guy at Panama.

Abe Ruef now demands a habeas corpus, having already got about everything else.

Officially speaking, Thaw is sane. Now let him vigorously endeavor to act the part.

"Where do I stand?" demands Mr. Harriman. Well, not on ceremony, Edward.

"Richard Mansfield Better," says the headline. Then it was possible, after all.

Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, is out for Cannon. Way out.

A Penrose with any other name would be as sweet.

If Thaw is sane, who isn't?

COMMENT OF VIRGINIA EDITORS.

An Old Story.

President Finley says that "in a broad sense the management of a railway is power to fix its rates. It must accept the rates that the market of economic and commercial forces, which are as absolutely beyond the control of its management as the tide of the ocean." President Finley is evidently an old story, and thinks that he is living in the days when political economy was based on philosophical research and scientific principles, and when the prices of commodities were regulated by the now antiquated law of supply and demand. Petersburg Index-Appel.

Fun Ahead.

The London Times is worried because "the earth is so ominously quiet." Let the Times possess its soul in patience until we get our presidential campaign well under way.—Floyd Master.

A Past Master.

Going into politics where Roosevelt is personally concerned as a practical politician, one can pass over all opposition in either Senate or House.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Good Roads for a Season.

Now that the winds have dried the roads and they are in a condition that will enable them to keep over all opposition in either Senate or House.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHERS.

MAJOR WEAVER, of Philadelphia, in retiring from office says he has no regrets. Apparently Philadelphia feels the same way about the retirement part of it.—Cleveland Leader.

Probably Baron Speck von Sternburg doesn't realize that he is giving the President lessons in handling that may enable him to keep over all opposition in either Senate or House.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Wisconsin announces plans for a new \$1,000,000 Capitol. It is a bold State and one conscious of virtue that dares embark on State-house building in these days.—New York Evening Post.

Montreal's birth rate is higher than that of any other American city. If the President finds it out he is likely to become an advocate of Canadian annexation.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Every slump in the stocks is a "panic," just as every success of over three inches is a "blizzard."—New York Tribune.

Mr. Harriman says he prefers the pentameter to the post-horse. Well, there seems little likelihood that Mr. Harriman will ever have to go to the post-horse.—Tupelo State Journal.

Pittsburg wants it understood that some "really good" writers of letters of the burn-it kind are in Pittsburg. Some are so poor they can't afford to be really bad.—Kansas City Times.

Cheap Seats.

Patience: "What do they charge for a seat at the skating rink?"
Beatrice: "What do they charge for the skates and I eat down for nothing."—Yonkers Statesman.

Rhymes for To-Day.

No Apologies; Or, Take It or Leave It.

IF YOUR broncho caught bronchitis in his broncho-bronchial tube, And your mustang reared the neck, Would you say: "The thing is funny! Just suppose, instead, my bunny blossomed bits of bright blue bunting from his back?"

If your farmhands turned some hand-springs by the hands' spring in the dell, While they should have handled the hand-springs in the dell, Would you chide them all as lazy, or just say: "Boys, take it easy! There's a million miles of millet at the mill!"

If your plumber plumed with plummetts that were anything but plumb, And your dentist dented dents into your tooth,

Would you treat their slips as witty, or remark: "Well, that's a pity! They could plumb and dent much better in my mouth."

If your barber barbed your beard off in the barbershop way, With the manner of a Barbary corsair,

Would you seize him by the collar, or just toss him half a dollar, And observe: "You needn't stop to cut my hair?"

If your job meant poetizing when you didn't want to, And to verse it when it made you ill to verse,

I suppose you, too, would scribble, now and then, this kind of dribble, But insist you could not do it any worse. H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

Gentle Puppy.

Cholly Saphard: "She said I needed a little puppy." "How silly of her! Why, you're quite harmless."

Miss Knox: "Harmless? Er—how do you mean? What has that to do with muscles?"

Miss Knox: "Oh I thought you said 'muzzle'."—Philadelphia Press.

Be a Sport.

"Don't knock the coffee," said the sarcastic waiter. "It's too weak to strike back. Be a sport and hammer the butter."—Cleveland Leader.

Stung for the Five, Anyway.

"Oh! John," exclaimed Mrs. Popley, "baby has swallowed that five-dollar gold piece Uncle George gave him. Isn't it terrible?" "It is," replied Tony. "If we send for a doctor he'll charge that much to get it out."—Catholic Standard and Times.

Quite a Different Thing.

Mrs. De Style: "Your husband seems to be a pessimist." Mrs. Malaprop: "Oh no. He's an occult."—Syracuse Herald.

Change.

"What a change a woman can make in a man's life!" "Ah! yes. And what an awful lot of change she requires while doing it."—New York Telegraph.

A Practical Demonstration.

"Come, come, my little man," exclaimed old Mr. Cherry, "I won't cry like that." "All right," replied the boy, through his sobs. "I'm giving you a sack back of the head." "It is," replied old Mr. Cherry. "You'd do it."—Philadelphia Press.

People Seen in Public Places

Political contests that are going on in many sections of the State are attracting widespread attention about the hotel lobbies, and are being freely discussed by guests who come in from time to time. The congressional battle in the U. S. House of Representatives is composed of the counties of Greene and Albemarle and the city of Charlottesville, and Senator John S. Chapman, of Greene, is the incumbent.

Senator Chapman is not a candidate for re-election, but the race for the honor is a three-cornered one. The first to enter was Editor J. H. Lindsay, of the Charlottesville Progress. The next was Attorney Perkins, of Charlottesville, a son of Mr. George Perkins, of that city, and a young man of great popularity. A few days ago Hon. N. B. Early, Jr., of Greene, announced his desire to succeed his father in the U. S. House of Representatives, and now all the candidates are hard at work. Mr. Lindsay is prominent as a newspaper man, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention.

Mr. Early has been a member of the House from Greene and Madison for ten years, and is a nephew of the late General Jubal Early. He is a lawyer by education, though he devotes all his time to agriculture, being one of the largest farmers in his section. Mr. Early is a native of Albemarle, and during his long service in the House has been a faithful friend and supporter of the University of Virginia.

Confederate who came here from the district who the race promises to be interesting to the end, and they seem unable, as a rule, at this early date to predict the result.

Miss Saunders, of Rocky Mount, and Miss Ferguson, of Roanoke, are at the Richmond.

Congressman Francis Rivers Lassiter, of Petersburg, was in the city yesterday, and was a caller on Governor Swann.

Major Lassiter remained with the Governor quite a while, though his visit had no political significance. The two are intimate personal friends of long standing, having been very close to one another when in Congress together.

Dr. Lyon Gardner Tyler, president of William and Mary College, was in the city yesterday.

Mr. W. N. Bowman, representing the Stewart Jail Works Company, of Cincinnati, is at Murphy's. Mr. Bowman had charge of the building of the new Federal County Jail, which was turned over to the Board of Supervisors yesterday. He will be in the city several days.

Mr. B. F. Eakle, proprietor of the Sweet Chalybeate Springs, is at the Richmond.

J. W. Pepper, Christiansburg, and Daniel Coleman, Norfolk, are at Murphy's.

Virginia at the Jefferson are E. B. Bragg, Newport News; Mrs. John D. Horsley, Lynchburg;

SOCIAL and PERSONAL

YESTERDAY.

First dance of the Cotton Club in Hunt and reception of Deep Run Easter egg hunt in Ginter lot, on West Franklin Street, at 12 M., under the auspices of the Junior Auxiliary of St. Paul's Church.

Final performance of operetta "Red Riding Hood" in Belvidere Hall at 8 P. M.

Hunt Club at 4 P. M.
Hunt and reception of Deep Run Easter egg hunt in Ginter lot, on West Franklin Street, at 12 M., under the auspices of the Junior Auxiliary of St. Paul's Church.

Egg hunt at Baptist Home for Aged Women at 11 A. M. for State Mission Circle, First Baptist Church.

Beautiful Luncheon.

Mrs. J. Taylor Bilyson, of No. 10 East Franklin Street, was the hostess of a very beautiful luncheon yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, in honor of Miss Virginia Smith, of Lynchburg; Miss Jessie Jones, Miss Madge Bowie, Miss Maude Starke, Miss Virginia Clarke, Miss Madge Montgomery, Miss Oley Minor, Miss Ruth Harrison and Mrs. Howard Sutton.

The luncheon table was exquisitely decorated with pink sweet peas and smilax. A centerpiece of the fragrant blossoms was surrounded with pink-shaded candles in crystal candleholders, and the dainty menu further carried out the scheme of the whole. Grapefruit was served in smilax-wreathed baskets, and the ices were adorned with clusters of sweet peas tied with tiny bows of pink gauze ribbon.

Mrs. Bilyson's guests were Miss Rosa Virginia Smith, Misses Nellie and Louise Bowman, of Lynchburg; Miss Jessie Jones, Miss Madge Bowie, Miss Maude Starke, Miss Virginia Clarke, Miss Madge Montgomery, Miss Oley Minor, Miss Ruth Harrison and Mrs. Howard Sutton.

House Party at Ben Venue.

Mrs. Edward McCormick Greene, of "Ben Venue," Hanover county, was hostess at a delightful house party during the Easter holidays. On March 30th she gave a large reception in honor of her house-guests, to which about 200 were invited.

Members of the house-party were: Miss Mary Monica of Towson, Md.; Miss Maud Littlepage Kennerly, of Clarke county; Miss Louise B. Meade, of White Post, Va.; Miss Sara Macatee and Miss Mary Waller, of Front Royal, Va.; Mr. F. Webb Madux, of Fauquier county; Mr. Lacy G. Lackey, of Clifton Forge, and Mr. Eubank De Jarrette, of Fredericksburg, Va.

Huguenot Society.

The Richmond branch of the Huguenot-Evangelical Society will hold its annual mass-meeting at the Grace Street Presbyterian Church to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

The address will be made by Bishop E. B. Hoss, of Tennessee, who is well known as one of the most eloquent preachers of the Methodist Church. An attractive feature of the service will be the singing of an old Huguenot canticle, which the excellent choir of Dr. Witherspoon's church is expected to render.

As is well known, the Richmond society, for twenty years past, has been supported by a clergyman at Lamotte-Fenelon, in the rural districts of France, where evangelical work is much needed and appreciated; and it is in order to keep this good work before the Richmond people that these meetings are held. All those interested are cordially invited to be present.

To Give Easter Hunt.

Miss Pauline Powers will be in charge of a pretty Easter egg hunt, to be given this morning at 11 o'clock, on the lawn of the Baptist Home for Aged Women, corner Harvie Street and Grove Avenue.

Delicious home-made candy will be on sale, and the little folks are promised a good time. If the weather is bad, the hunt will be postponed until the next clear afternoon.

Proceeds will go to the State Mission Circle of the First Baptist Church.

Initial Dance.

The Cotillon Club, a recently formed social organization, gave its initial dance in Hermitage Golf Club last evening.

The dance, which began at 8 o'clock, was in the hands of a committee composed of Messrs. G. E. Ready, A. S. Gilman and W. W. Nance, and an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent by the boys and girls present.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Russell and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Grimmel were the chorons.

Among those dancing were Misses Anna Rosenogk, Christine Rosenogk, Grace Gilman, Julia Payne, Emma Brown, May B. Taylor, of Petersburg; Jean McGraw, Elizabeth McGraw, Nanette Hall, Messrs. C. B. Pollard, J. M. Wilson, A. S. Gilman, John Russell, W. W. Nance, R. P. Brown, R. P. Noel, W. B. Robinson, H. L. Lorraine, H. C. Taylor, C. D. Taylor, G. R. Ready, and others.

Building Completed.

The Norfolk Landmark of yesterday has the following notice that what has been the interest of the Daughters of the Confederacy all over the State:

Following an inspection of "Beauvoir," the home of the Daughters of the Confederacy at the exposition, yesterday by the board of directors, Contractor Moore received all but the final payment for the erection of the structure.

The final amount will be paid early next week, when the building will be turned over to the Daughters of the Confederacy fully completed.

All furniture and fixtures for the building are now in readiness to be sent to the grounds at Sewell's Point.

Dr. Hunter McGuire

The late Dr. Hunter McGuire told me that the Otterburn Lilia Water ranked next to the Buffalo Lilia Water among the waters with the greatest satisfaction, and consider it the best water of its class on the market.—Bureau of Mass.

For sale by THAW & GRANT, Phone 234, 1201 E. Main. Five gallons for \$1.00.

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